

Remarks

The Office Action mailed December 1, 2006 has been carefully reviewed and the following remarks have been made in consequence thereof.

Claims 1, 2, 4-11, 13-20, and 22-45 are now pending in this application. Claims 28-45 have been allowed. Claims 1, 2, 10, 11, 19, and 20 stand rejected. Claims 3-9, 12-18, and 21-27 are objected to. Claims 3, 12, and 21 have been cancelled.

The rejection of Claims 1, 2, 10, 11, 19, and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Belser et al. ("Belser") (U.S. Pat. No. 5, 666, 325) is respectfully traversed.

Belser describes a dispensing system (10) including a dispenser (14) that supplies a bead of fluid material (18) onto a substrate (24), and a sensor (26) that monitors the dispensed bead (22) on the substrate (24). The sensor (26) is coupled to a control circuit (32) that determines whether a height and width of the dispensed bead (22) are within predetermined upper and lower limits. If the height and width of the dispensed bead (22) are not within the predetermined limits, an alarm signal is generated. Notably, Belser does not describe nor suggest buffering a parameter and comparing, using a time-delayed value of the parameter, the parameter to at least one parameter limit, in combination with indicating an alarm condition when the parameter is outside of a bound set by the at least one parameter limit at a time when the parameter is compared to the at least one parameter limit.

Claim 1 recites a method for indicating an alarm condition in an industrial process, wherein the method comprises "measuring a parameter of the industrial process . . . determining at least one parameter limit . . . buffering said parameter . . . comparing, using a time-delayed value of said parameter, said parameter to said at least one parameter limit . . . indicating an alarm condition when said parameter is outside of a bound set by said at least one parameter limit at a time when said parameter is compared to said at least one parameter limit."

Belser does not describe nor suggest a method for indicating an alarm condition in an industrial process as is recited in Claim 1. More specifically, Belser does not describe nor suggest a method that includes measuring a parameter of an industrial process, determining at least one parameter limit, buffering the parameter, comparing the parameter to the at least one parameter limit using a time-delayed value of the parameter, and indicating an alarm condition when the parameter is outside of a bound set by the at least one parameter limit at a time when the parameter is compared to the at least one parameter limit. Rather, in contrast to the present invention, Belser describes a dispensing system that measures a height and width of a dispensed bead and generates an alarm signal if the height and width of that dispensed bead are not within predetermined upper and lower limits. Accordingly, Claim 1 is submitted as being patentable over Belser.

Claim 2 depends from independent Claim 1. When the recitations of Claim 2 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 1, Applicant submits that dependent Claim 2 likewise is patentable over Belser.

Claim 10 recites an “apparatus for indicating an alarm condition in an industrial process, said apparatus comprising a sensor configured to measure a parameter of the industrial process, a data acquisition system, and a computer, said apparatus configured to: measure a parameter of the industrial process . . . determine at least one parameter limit . . . buffer said parameter . . . compare, using a time-delayed value of said parameter, said parameter to said at least one parameter limit . . . and indicate an alarm condition when said parameter is outside of a bound set by said at least one parameter limit at a time when said parameter is compared to said at least one parameter limit.”

Belser does not describe nor suggest an apparatus for indicating an alarm condition in an industrial process as is recited in Claim 10. More specifically, Belser does not describe nor suggest an apparatus that is configured to measure a parameter of an industrial process, determine at least one parameter limit, buffer the parameter, compare the parameter to the at least one parameter limit using a time-delayed value of the parameter, and indicate an alarm condition when the parameter is outside of a bound set by the at least one parameter limit at a

time when the parameter is compared to the at least one parameter limit. Rather, in contrast to the present invention, Belser describes a dispensing system that measures a height and width of a dispensed bead and generates an alarm signal if the height and width of that dispensed bead are not within predetermined upper and lower limits. Accordingly, Claim 10 is submitted as being patentable over Belser.

Claim 11 depends from independent Claim 10. When the recitations of Claim 11 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 10, Applicant submits that dependent Claim 11 likewise is patentable over Belser.

Claim 19 recites a “medium having machine-readable instructions recorded thereon that are configured to instruct a computer to: input a sensed parameter of an industrial process . . . determine at least one parameter limit . . . buffer said parameter . . . compare, using a time-delayed value of said parameter, said parameter to said at least one parameter limit . . . and indicate an alarm condition when said parameter is outside of a bound set by said at least one parameter limit at a time when said parameter is compared to said at least one parameter limit.”

Belser does not describe nor suggest a medium having machine-readable instructions recorded thereon as is recited in Claim 19. More specifically, Belser does not describe nor suggest a medium having machine-readable instructions recorded thereon that are configured to instruct a computer to input a sensed parameter of an industrial process, determine at least one parameter limit, buffer the parameter, compare the parameter to the at least one parameter limit using a time-delayed value of the parameter, and indicate an alarm condition when the parameter is outside of a bound set by the at least one parameter limit at a time when the parameter is compared to the at least one parameter limit. Rather, in contrast to the present invention, Belser describes a dispensing system that measures a height and width of a dispensed bead and generates an alarm signal if the height and width of that dispensed bead are not within predetermined upper and lower limits. Accordingly, Claim 19 is submitted as being patentable over Belser.

Claim 20 depends from independent Claim 19. When the recitations of Claim 20 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 19, Applicant submits that dependent Claim 20 likewise is patentable over Belser.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully requests that the Section 102 rejection of Claims 1, 2, 10, 11, 19, and 20 be withdrawn.

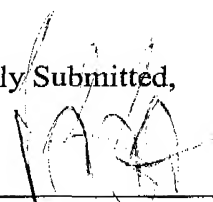
Claims 3-9 were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 3 has been cancelled. Claims 4-9 depend directly or indirectly from independent Claim 1. Claim 1 is submitted as being in condition for allowance. When the recitations of Claims 4-9 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 1, Applicant submits that Claims 4-9 are likewise in condition for allowance.

Claims 12-18 were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 12 has been cancelled. Claims 13-18 depend directly or indirectly from independent Claim 10. Claim 10 is submitted as being in condition for allowance. When the recitations of Claims 13-18 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 10, Applicant submits that Claims 13-18 are likewise in condition for allowance.

Claims 21-27 were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 21 has been cancelled. Claims 22-27 depend directly or indirectly from independent Claim 19. Claim 19 is submitted as being in condition for allowance. When the recitations of Claims 22-27 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 19, Applicant submits that Claims 22-27 are likewise in condition for allowance.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all the claims now active in this application are believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,



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